FHP FILE

United States Department of Agriculture | Forest Service | NA

File Code: 3460 Date: January 8, 1998

Subject: Forest Damage Data and Aerial Survey/GIS Data Standardization

To: Gerard Hertel, Assistant Director, Forest Health and Management
Forest Health Protection Field Representatives
NA Forest Health Monitoring Team

Enclosed are two maps:

1) 1996 Forest Damage Survey for DE/MD/NJ/OH/PA/WV (color) and
2) Elm Yellows Distribution - 1997 (black and white).

The maps represent progress by the Forest Health Monitoring Program to standardize the collection and reporting of aerially surveyed forest damage data. Part of that effort includes determining the best methods for incorporating the damage data into a geographic information system (GIS).

The standardization effort involves:

- Data standards for aerial survey information (which describe the attributes to be reported for all damaged areas);

- A template database structure, or in ARC/INFO GIS terminology, a polygon attribute table (.PAT file) for forest damage coverages (to be used when submitting the mapped data in digital format). If you do not have access to ARC/INFO, these definitions and the corresponding records can be created in a database program and saved in a .DBF (dBASE) file format or alternatively, in an ASCII file format. Please contact me for additional instructions on using these options);

- A list of damage causing agent codes (from the Forest Service's National Pest Code List);

- A list of forest type codes (from the Forest Health Monitoring Manual);

- A list of host tree species codes (from the FHM Manual); and

Our plan is to implement these data standards during this year's (1998) aerial surveys.

To continue the progress toward standardizing the collecting and reporting of forest damage data, a one-day workshop, similar to the one held in Durham, is being planned for Morgantown's state cooperators in mid-April. Participants in the workshop will be the aerial sketchmappers, GIS specialists, Morgantown Forest Health Protection staff members, and Tom Luther, a member of the Durham FHP staff. If there are others who could benefit from participating in this workshop, please let me know.

If you have any questions about the maps or need clarification of any of the above information, please call me at (304)285-1569.

Susan J. DeLost

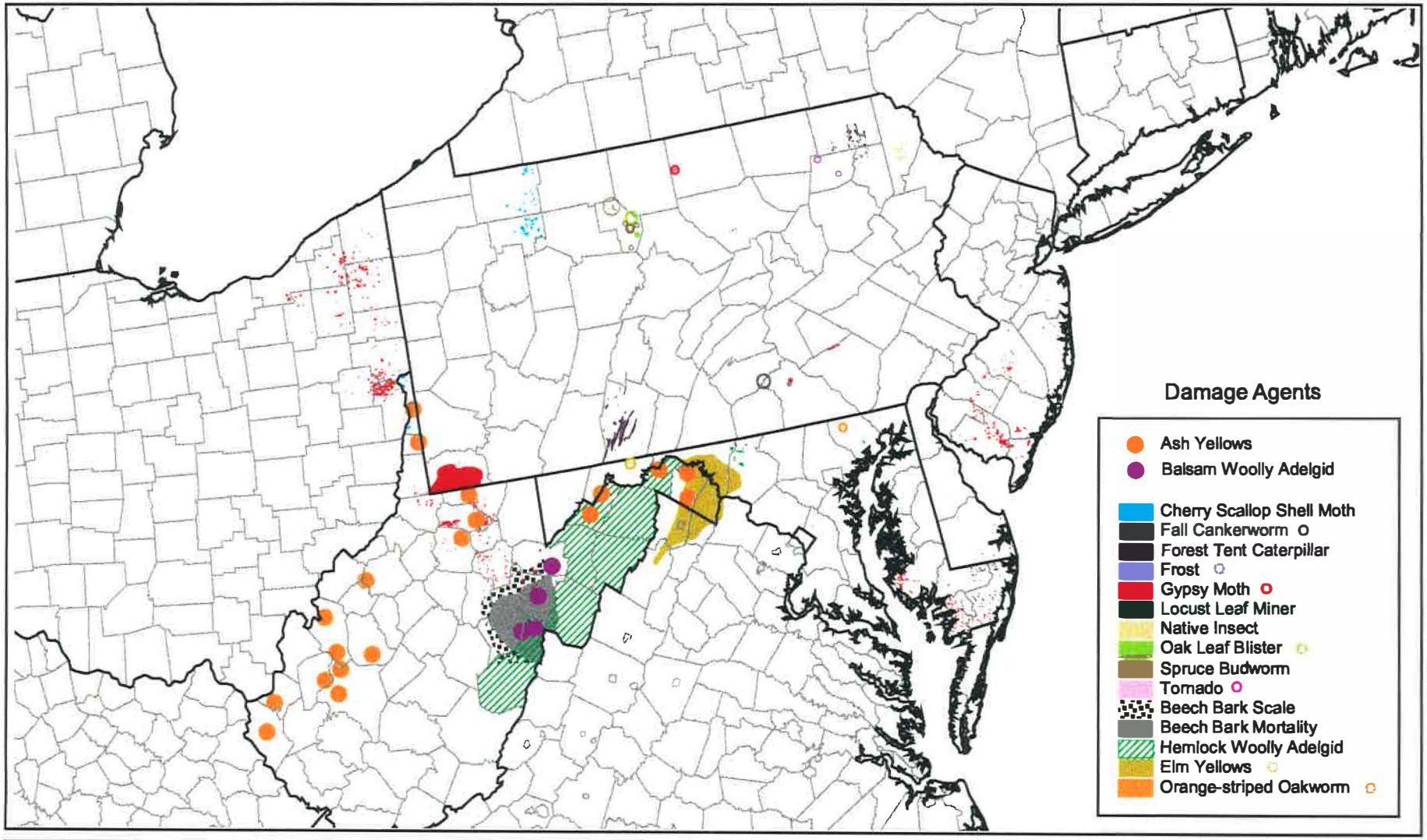
SUSAN J. DELOST
Cartographer
Forest Health Protection

Enclosures

SJD

cc:
Bill Burkman

1996 Forest Damage Survey
(DE/MD/NJ/OH/PA/WV)

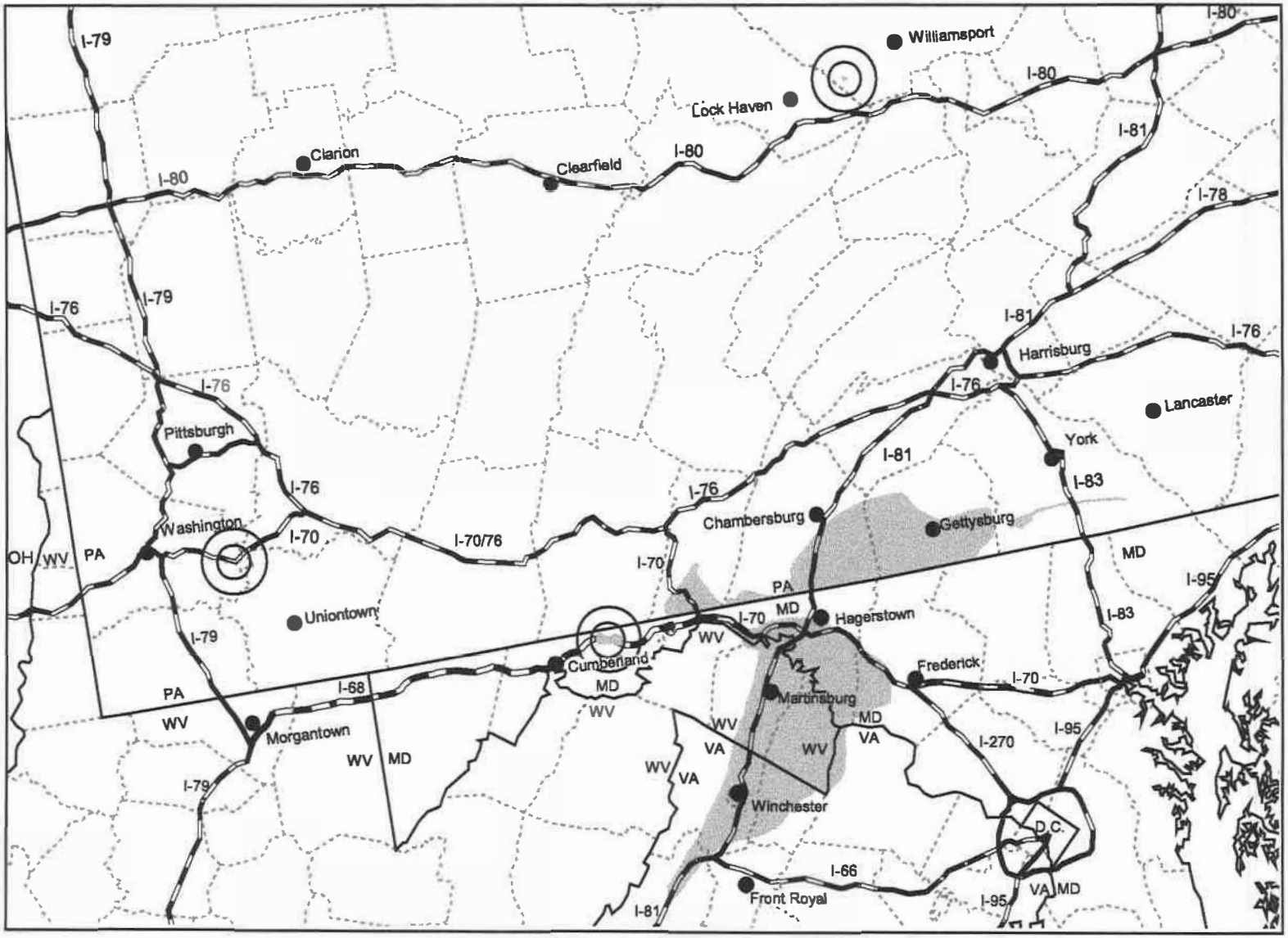


Forest damage data provided by the states

Map produced by: USDA Forest Service, Morgantown, WV

12/97 SJD

Elm Yellows Distribution - 1997



Produced by: USDA Forest Service, Forest Health Protection, Morgantown, WV in cooperation with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture, Maryland Department of Agriculture, Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry, Virginia Department of Agriculture and Virginia Division of Forestry

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